



Death and disease are no respecters of persons. The young are taken as well as the old. Carelessness of health, transgression of Nature's laws, and hereditary influences are continually digging pitfalls. Apparently strong, healthy young people start downhill every day. They lose health and life just when the possibilities of life seem greatest. Some slight disorder, carelessly neglected, is reinforced by other kindred troubles. Indigestion, indicated by sourness of the stomach, flatulency, heartburn, and distress after eating, are followed by disordered liver, constipation, headaches, kidney disease, loss of appetite, nervousness, debility and loss of flesh. Loss of flesh prepares the way for the most serious consequences. Weakness from any cause is an invitation to consumption. The germs of consumption are in the air and in our food—in the water we drink. They are everywhere. But they are harmless to the perfectly healthy body. It is only when the body is weak that they do any harm. Prompt measures should be taken at the first indication of disease. When indigestion shows itself in any form it calls for the immediate use of Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery. This wonderful medicine is an invigorating tonic for the whole system. It purifies and enriches the blood and searches out the disease germs wherever they may be in the body. It builds up firm, solid, healthy, useful flesh. It strengthens the nerves, stimulates the appetite, makes digestion and nutrition perfect and brings about refreshing sleep. The marvellous success of this truly wonderful medicine has brought into existence scores of imitations. Send at once ten stamps to pay the cost of mailing only, and receive free a copy of the book, "The People's Common Sense Medical Adviser," the most reliable and useful medical work ever published. For French cloth binding, send ten cents additional (10 cents in all). World's Dispensary Medical Association, Buffalo, N. Y.

A Tell-tale Nail.

Dr. John Donne, the famous English divine and poet, who lived in the reign of James I., was a veritable Sherlock Holmes in bent of mind. A writer in *Tid Bits* tells of one of his famous exploits:

He was walking in the churchyard while a grave was being dug, when the sexton cast up a smouldering skull. The doctor idly took it up, and in handling it, found a headless nail driven into it. This he managed to take out and conceal in his handkerchief. It was evident to him that murder had been done. He questioned the sexton, and learned that the skull was probably that of a certain man who was proprietor of a brandy shop, and was a drunkard, being found dead in bed one morning, after a night in which he had drunk two quarts of brandy.

"Had he a wife?" asked the doctor.

"Yes."

"What character does she bear?"

"She bore a very good character—only the neighbors gossiped because she married the day after her husband's funeral. She still lives here."

The doctor soon called upon the woman. He asked for and received the particulars of the death of her first husband. Suddenly opening his handkerchief, he showed her the tell-tale nail, asking in a loud voice:

"Madam, do you know this nail?"

The woman was so surprised that she confessed, was tried and executed.

I HAVE watched the donkey with a grate deal of patient anxiety. They normal appetite and will eat all the time and more too. They ain't particular about their vices, and will try hard to swallow a horse shoe, but they can't do it. The donkey is a sort of pun on the horse which I never could see the point in. They will stand more porridge than a sheaf of wet oats without falling out. He has one tale and few years which are like few steeples to one church. The donkey is a sober and mysterious kuss. Farewell, you sad and thinking critter; I may never rite your memoirs agen, but I shell always respect you as a donkey. As a class study the donkey is full of interest as a mile stun with all the letters worn oph. Donkeys will live for ever or thereabouts, and retain their beauty to the last.—*Josh Billings.*

From the Ram's Horn.

The devil will claim everything we do not give to God.

From the standpoint of the bull-dog this is a very quarrelsome world.

Has not God always been good to us? Then why not believe He always will?

Before Jesus told any man to love his neighbor as himself, He showed him how.

We would talk less about others, if we would first do more thinking about ourselves.

It will probably be some time before the people who blow trumpets solely to advertise themselves, are all dead.

THE elaborately designed new silver certificates have not won the popular success that was hoped for by the authorities at Washington. The widespread criticism on account of the left-handed goddess of Liberty that was directed against the \$1 certificate when it made its appearance has been followed by more serious objections to all the certificates on the part of bank cashiers and others whose business requires them to handle the notes in large quantities. The first objection is that the different denominations of the new certificates are not nearly so readily distinguished as the former issue. In the matter of the \$5 certificate this criticism is serious. However, we can not vouch for this criticism, not having had an opportunity (nor expecting one) to make a personal examination of the new bills.

How to Find Out Her Age.

Girls of marriageable age do not like to tell how old they are, but you can find out by following the subjoined instructions, the young lady doing the figuring. Tell her to put down the number of the month in which she was born, then multiply it by 2; then multiply it by 50; then add to her age; then subtract 365; then add 115; then tell her to tell you the amount she has left. The two figures to the right will tell you her age, and the remainder the month of her birth. For example: The amount is 822; she is 22 years old, and was born in the eighth month (August).

Reflections of a Bachelor.

Socrates isn't the only man who married a shrew, but he probably got up the best story about it.

It is probable that the one who started the report that matches were made in heaven won't get in.

It always bores a man when his wife insists on taking him to see a tree where he once carved their initials inside a heart.

Even if a woman's stockings did not come up any further than a man's socks, she would probably sit on the floor to pull them on.

The more people agree with us the more use we generally have for their opinions.

Some women seem to think they can influence a man in about the same way they shoo chickens.

As soon as a girl gets married all the other women watch to see how soon she will begin to age.

When a girl has been told that she has a spiritual face she begins to try to put on a dreamy, rapt expression.

A woman never feels the real joy of shopping till she has mussed another woman's hair at a bargain counter.

A girl will give a man a silver flask with a monogram on it for a Christmas present and then get mad if he uses it.

Civil Death.

The statutes of New York provide that the penalty of life imprisonment shall involve civil death for the felon sentenced to it. This means that he shall be deprived of his civil rights, particularly property rights and the rights resulting from family relations, as if he were actually dead. Civil death takes from the person upon whom this punishment has been inflicted all that he owned and transfers it to those who would have received it if he had died before his conviction. It affects his contract rights in the same manner as physical death. He cannot, in this legal condition, become an heir or obtain property by bequest. The law deprives him of the legal rights of a parent. If he has a wife, she may consider her marriage legally dissolved, as if he were dead, and contract another marriage.

Civil death was known to the Roman law, and this term, according to Blackstone, was applied to certain legal conditions in England. It is also known to the French law and to the statutes of a number of our states. But there are some doubts about the exact scope and legal effects of the penalty. A life convict may be pardoned. That would certainly not disturb or in any way affect property rights or new marriage relations that had been established as a consequence of the civil death. But could not the wife of a pardoned life convict, in case he had not contracted another marriage, claim the legal rights connected with the marriage relation? It is be-

"CLEANLINESS IS NAE PRIDE, DIRT'S NAE HONESTY." COMMON SENSE DICTATES THE USE OF

SAPOLIO

lieved that this question must be answered in the affirmative, and it would therefore appear that the ex-convict, though he was civilly dead during the term of his imprisonment, is still bound by his former relations if he has not been released therefrom by an act not of his own doing.

It would seem that the law in a case like the one to which reference was made ought to require a judicial dissolution of the former marriage before it authorizes the wife or the husband of a person sentenced to life imprisonment to contract a new marriage.—*Buffalo Courier.*

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Why 1900 Is Not Leap Year.

The year 1900 is 365 days, five hours and forty-nine minutes long; Julius Cæsar, B. C. 49, decreed that it should be considered as 365 days and six hours; and that the six hours of each year should be added together until an extra day was made—that is, that in every fourth year the year should have 366 days. This arrangement lasted until 1582, A. D., when Pope Gregory XIII, on taking council, found that by delaying the beginning of the calendar year eleven minutes every year for 1,600 years, the calendar year was ten days behind the solar year; that when the calendar said March 11th it was really March 21st. He decreed that October 3rd 1582, should be counted as October 13th, and to keep the calendar year as close as possible to the solar year, he ordered a partial settlement every 100 years, and a complete settlement every 400 years. Eleven minutes a year for 100 years! Eleven minutes a year for 100 years equal about eighteen hours, that is, at the end of 100 years the calendar year would be eighteen hours behind the solar year. Pope Gregory decreed that those eighteen hours should be set aside and that the centennial year whose number was not divisible by 400 should be a leap year. The effect of this decree was to put the calendar year six hours ahead of the solar year every 100 years; at the end of 400 years the calendar year would be twenty-four hours ahead. Then by having the fourth centennial year a leap year, the calendar year was put back even with the solar year. The arrangement is so nearly exact that the error amounts to only one day in about 3,200 years.

COL. NEWMAN ON SAM WILSON.

Tells of His Experience While the Lone Robber was Holding Up a Missouri Pacific Train.

"I understand that an effort is being made to have Sam Wilson released from the penitentiary," said Col. Henry A. Newman, of Randolph county, to a reporter of the St. Louis Republic last Friday. "I don't know that I will resist his application for a pardon, but I owe Wilson a grudge. He is the lone robber who held up a Missouri Pacific train near Pacific and


nearly killed a lot of us to death. Gov. Stone, Gov. Stephens, Maj. Wm. Warner, Pat M. Lally and myself were on the train. Mr. Lally is the railroad detective, and we all felt very secure on account of his presence. Gov. Stone had the toothache and was not in a mood for carrying on a cheerful conversation. I was pointing out to Mr. Stephens how he could reach the governor's chair and send his name and fame thundering down the future ages, when all at once the train stopped, and a 'nigger' porter presently informed us that the train was being held up by seven robbers and that they would likely commence shooting through our car very soon. I looked around to find some place to hide, but Lally had filed a claim on the stove and Maj. Warner had possession of the coal box; and I thought at the time that he wasn't standing up for Missouri as well as he might do, but there was no time to lose in argument.

"Suppose we have prayers," said Maj. Warner. "Just the thing," said Gov. Stone and Pat Lally. "Lon Stephens is the most eloquent in prayer and has a good standing at the throne of grace," said Maj. Warner, and I move that he proceed to ask for our safe deliverance from this great peril. Mr. Stephens then proceeded at once to ask divine deliverance. He prayed for the safety of Gov. Stone, Pat Lally and Maj. Warner, but for some reason he didn't mention my name. "Lon," I said, "can't you mention Henry Newman?" "Of course I could," he replied, but you tried to beat me out of the Democratic nomination for state treasurer. However, if the Lord has any particular interest in you, I have no objection to His protecting you, and I will lay the case before Him in that shape. This is the best I can do for you." We all lay down on the floor of the car to avoid stopping bullets, and it seemed an eternity until the train started up and we felt safe again.


"It wasn't right in Wilson to give us such a scare. Maj. Warner had been making speeches all over Missouri and telling the people how good it is to stand up for Missouri, and there he was sprawled out on the floor of the car and not doing a thing to save Lally and the rest of us from Wilson. It seems that Wilson found all the money he could lug away with him in the express car and so concluded to let us escape. He was arrested some days later by a county sheriff and sent to the pen for 15 years. I don't feel very friendly toward him, but if Gov. Stephens thinks he has been there long enough and he will promise that he will never again scare a lot of statesmen out of their wits I will not protest against his release."

BUSINESS in the scrapping line was quite lively at Slater on Saturday of last week. The first *mêlée* occurred over family troubles between B. M. Brashears and John Teter, two farmers, in which Brashears shot at Teter with a pistol, but did not hit him. Both of the men were arrested and taken before Justice Jenkins, but as Teter subsequently failed to appear against Brashears, he was released. The next set-to occurred about two hours afterwards, and W. C. Rodman, a C. & A. brakeman, and Thos. Dillard, of Slater, were the participants, their differences having arisen from a dispute over a watch. Dillard struck Rodman in the head with a rock, knocking him to his knees, and when Rodman arose to his feet he drew a revolver and fired at Dillard, the ball taking effect in his right cheek, and lodging back of the ear. The wound is painful, but not serious. The third encounter took place between two white girls, who settled their troubles in regular Corbett and Sullivan style. Their names were not made public by the Slater Index.

The average net cost of maintaining the convicts in the penitentiary during the years 1895 and 1896 was 25.09 cents each a day. This included all expenses for provisions, water, fuel, light, clothing, pay of officers and employes, etc., and is nearly 5 cents a head less than the best figures ever shown for similar service in Missouri heretofore.



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On April 1, 1897, the publishers of FARM NEWS will award the prizes named below (aggregating in value \$1,000) to the persons sending in the largest lists of words formed from the letters in the words "FARM NEWS." Read the rules of the contest and get to work. Remember there's a prize for every one, and you might as well have one of the big ones as not.

THE PRIZES.		THE RULES.	
1 Cash.....	\$25 00	1—The contest consists in forming words, using only the letters found in the words FARM NEWS.	
1 ".....	15 00	2—Use no letter in any word more times than it occurs in FARM NEWS.	
1 ".....	10 00	3—Foreign words and proper nouns will not be counted.	
10 " \$2.50 each.....	25 00	4—Any standard dictionary will be accepted as authority.	
15 " \$1.00 each.....	15 00	5—All lists must be in the hands of the publisher of the CHARITON COURIER before 12 o'clock noon, March 27, 1897.	
20 " 50 cents each.....	10 00	6—Every participant will be entitled to a prize consisting of the FARM NEWS POULTRY BOOK.	
3,600 copies Farm News Poultry Book at 25 cents each.....	900 00	7—The lists will be passed upon by a committee of citizens.	
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We are confident that there is not a family into which FARM NEWS goes that will not derive great pleasure as well as profit from studying out the list of words that can be formed by using only these eight letters. Understand that all eight letters do not have to be used in every word in your list; but there must be no letters in your words that are not found in the two words, "FARM NEWS." Thus, *farm, arm, arms, are, an*, are words that count. Both singular and plural forms of the same word count.

Now, who will be the first to get in the largest list? Promptness counts, as in case of a tie, the list reaching our office first will be given precedence. It's better than an old-fashioned spelling-school. Hurry along your lists! Remember—That every contestant gets a prize! Get down your spelling book and dictionary and hurry along your lists.

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Uncle Sam's New Death Code.
The president of the United States will, within a few days, approve an act of congress which reduces the number of offenses against the government punishable by death, after conviction, from sixty to five.

Many of the statutes of the United States, as carried on the books for nearly a century, were copied from the laws of England. The penalties for crime that it is possible for a judge in a United States court to inflict have for many years been disproportioned to the maximum power of the state courts. Congressmen Newton Curtis, of Ogdensburg, over four years ago, undertook to bring the federal criminal code to the times, and the final passage of his house bill by the senate

last Wednesday signalized a victory that was only gained by persistence.

Under the act as reconstructed there will be but five offenses known to the federal law. These are murder on a territory, fort magazine, shop or reservation wherein the United States has technical jurisdiction; rape on the same; treason, piracy and treasonable betrayal of trust in the army or navy.

Cannon was first used in the battle of Crecey, 1346.

Women constitute two-thirds of all the church members of the United States, but only one-thirteenth of all the criminals.

FAITH is the greatest builder and envy the greatest destroyer.